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NBC

ADVERTISER ~~PARK AND ROAD~~

WRITER

PROGRAM TITLE ~~WOLVERINE FOREST RANGERS (EPISODE NO. 211)~~ OK

CHICAGO OUTLET ~~WMAQ~~

(~~1512-1530 PM~~)

(~~NOVEMBER 20, 1960~~)

)

(~~FRIDAY~~)

DAY

TIME

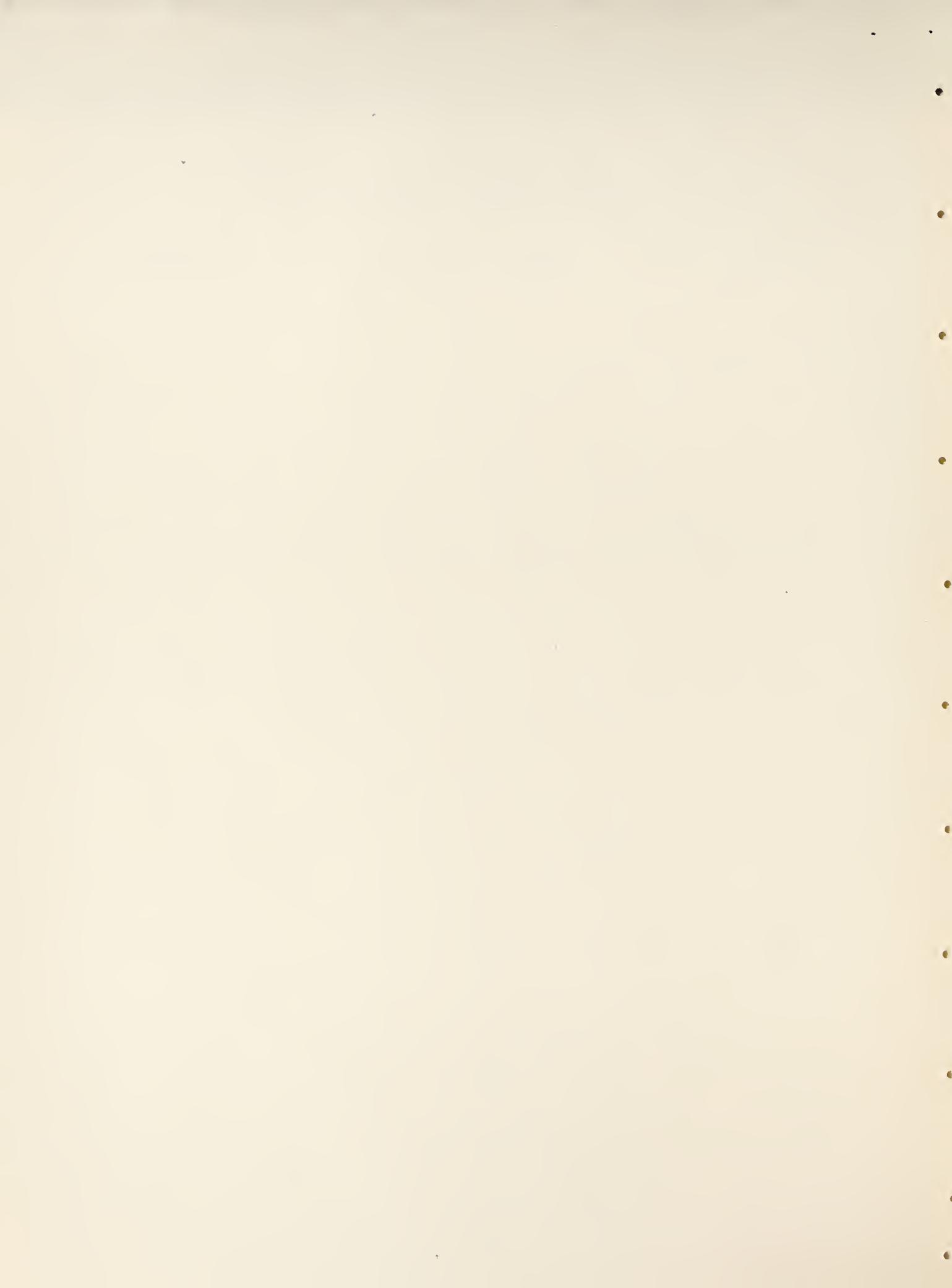
DATE

PRODUCTION

ANNOUNCER

ENGINEER

REMARKS



ANNOUNCER: "Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers"

MUSIC: Orchestra; Quartet: Ranger's Song.

ANNOUNCER: With official reports confirming that Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers on the ground had a pretty good season ~~was~~ ~~was~~ true all along -- that the year's drought has already exceeding in intensity even that of 1934 -- the country has been experiencing an unusually bad forest fire situation. Big headlines in the daily papers have told of battles against the terrifying flames on more than a hundred bad fires. But what the papers have not told is that the Forest Service Rangers in the National Forests already this year have caught and promptly suppressed more than eleven thousand forest fires, with losses held to a low figure. Only a few bad ones got away, but they were plenty bad, of course.

The Forest Service continues its relentless war against the red demon of the timberlands, but during breathing spells, the regular work of managing and developing the National Forests goes on, and at the Pine Cone Ranger Station today, Ranger Jim Robbins and his assistant, Jerry Quick, are making preparations for an aerial mapping project on the Pine Cone District. We find them in the office --



JIM: (FADE IN) That plane must be flying over somewhere now. It's almost six o'clock.

JERRY: Do you think the pilot can find the emergency field, Jim? It isn't very big.

JIM: Oh yes, he'll find it, Jerry. The outfit we contracted with to furnish the plane for this job is used to flying this country.

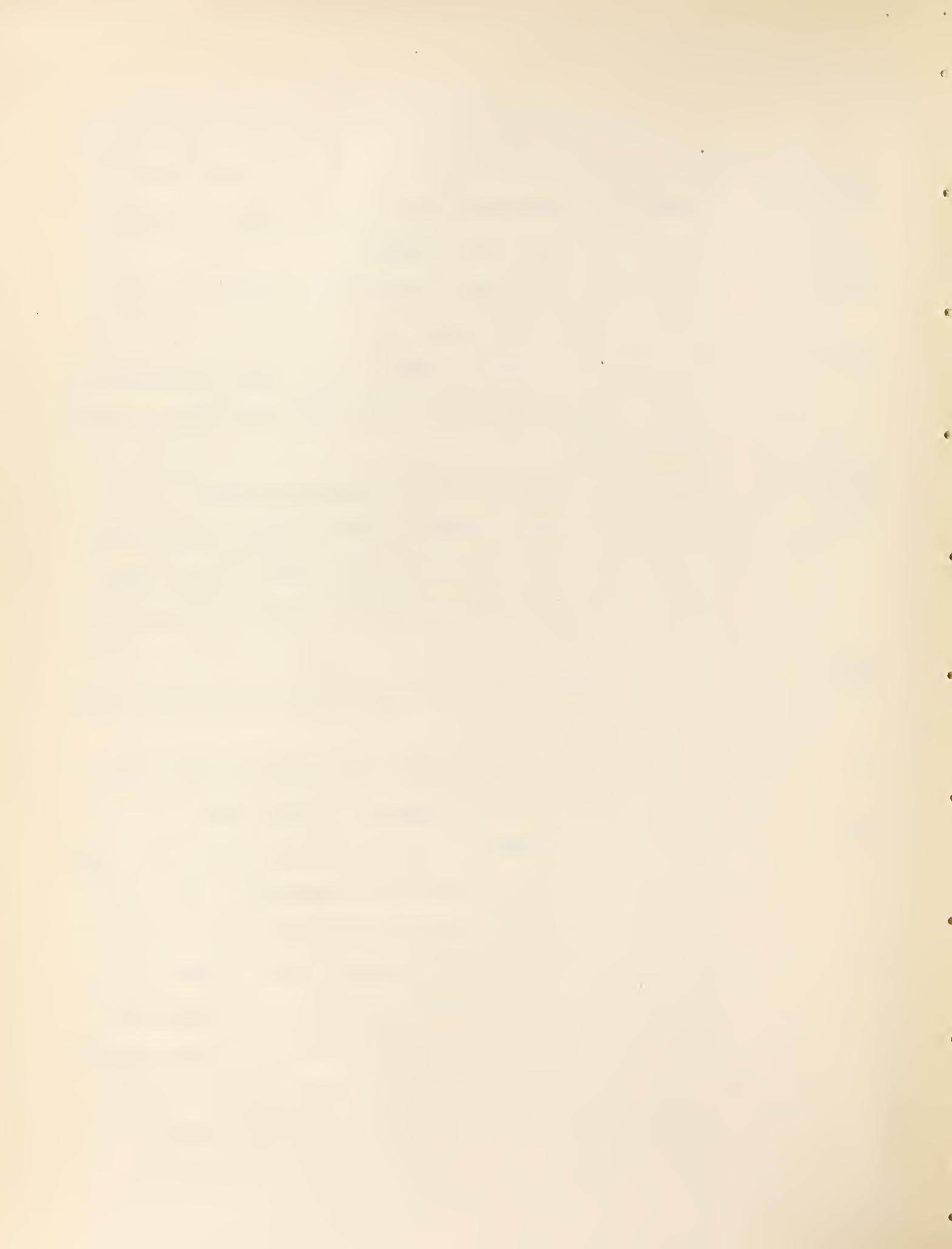
JERRY: Guess we're going to start taking pictures!

JIM: I guess you never cover the Bald Mountain area first. I don't know how much time you'll need for that, but that's the section we need the big data on as quick as we can get it.

JERRY: Yeah, we sure need an air map of that area for our fire-control plane.

JIM: I expect we'll get the whole Forest air-mapped before we get through -- but probably not this year.

JERRY: It'll sure be swell to have 'em. -- You know, I've heard that some of the big city fire departments have regular models of their section of the city they have to cover. Do you? Our air photographs will give us pretty much the same thing, like breaking up the most inflammable sections of the forests, and the nature of the cover, and so on -- but we have plenty of other good air map info, too, besides in developing our fire-control organization.



BESS:

(FADING IN) Oh, Jerry -- Mary didn't get here yet, has she?

JERRY:

No. Is she coming over this morning?

BESS:

She's going to help me with my canning.

JERRY:

Need any more help?

BESS:

I thought you were going to take air photographs this morning.

JERRY:

(LAUGHS) Maybe I could talk Jim into letting me help you instead.

JIM:

Well, I dunno, you'd look kinda funny, Jerry, crashin' out to put out a fire in one of Bess's fancy aprons.

(THEY LAUGH)

BESS:

When's the airplane supposed to get here?

JIM:

Oughta be along pretty soon.

BESS:

Is this the same one you had before, Jim?

JIM:

I don't know, Bess. The company'll send us whatever pilot they have available, I suppose.

BESS:

How do you take these air-map pictures, anyhow, Jim?

JIM:

(KIDDING) Well, we'll tie a rope around Jerry and swing 'im over the side, head down, so he can ---

BESS:

My heavens, Jim, you can't do that! No sir, you won't do anything of the --- Oh, Jim, you're joking --

JIM:

(LAUGHS)

BESS:

(LAUGHING) That's just what somebody ought to do to you. Are you going up?

JIM: Roger. Not even for two of us, this isn't in any place
and you --

JERRY: Here comes Mary.

MARY: What do you think one'll say to your wife, Jerry?

JERRY: Well, I don't know. I haven't told her.

(SOUNDS) DOOR OPENS

MARY: (OFF LINE) Hello, everybody.

(REPLIES)

SOUND: (DOOR CLOSES)

JERRY: Mrs. Rockwell, look who's on your wave coming over this
morning.

MARY: (PAKING IN) I'm taking advantage of every chance I get
to listen sometime about racing boats.

JERRY: I'm going to take some serial service up around Gold
Mountain today, Mary.

MARY: Are you Jerry? Fifteen, you mean?

JERRY: Yeah, but it's safe enough. I didn't open up lots of holes.
I used to --

MARY: Oh, that's grand. I wish I could go with you. I've
never been up.

JERRY: You wish you'd like to, too?

MARY: Indeed I would.

JERRY: It's too bad we can't take you. I'm afraid maybe
you wouldn't want me to go fishing.

MARY: Oh no. I promise not to worry, Jerry -- are you going, Mr. Robbins?

JIM: No, Mary. One of us has to stay here, while there's so much danger of fire. We can't take a chance on having a fire get ahead of us in weather like this.

MARY: I'll bet Jerry's never been up before. That's why you're letting him go this time.

JERRY: I haven't been up for a long time, but I used to fly all the time when I was going to college.

MARY: You mean you had a plane of your own?

JERRY: (LAUGHING) Me, own a plane? Gosh, I couldn't even afford a toy balloon. But my roommate was from a wealthy family, see and he owned a plane. His name was Bob LeCorte. He took me flying with him a lot of times. I was going to learn to fly myself, but I never got a chance.

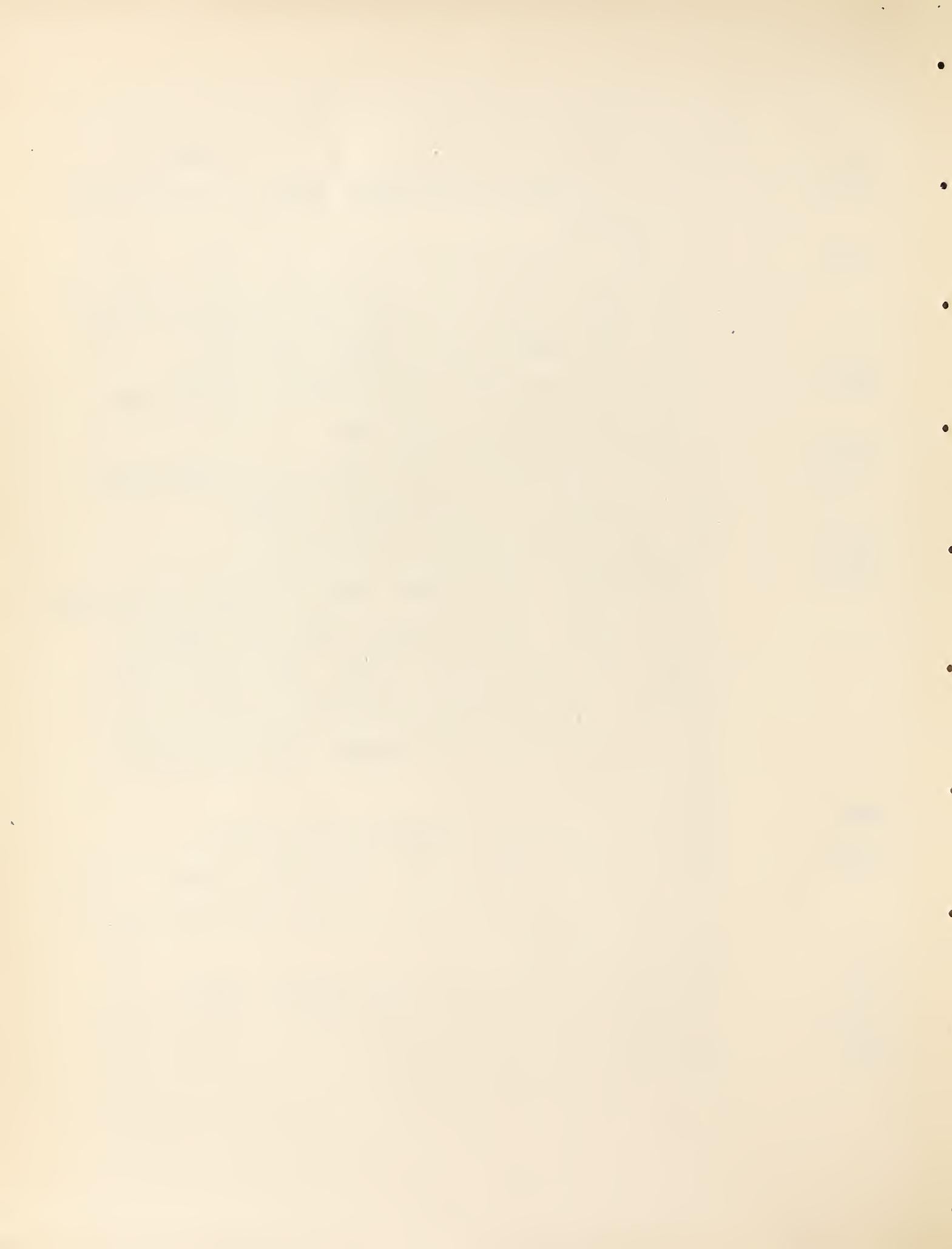
BESS: Then this trip won't be anything new for you.

JERRY: Well, I haven't been up for a long time, though. I like it. Too bad we haven't got a regular fleet of planes in the Forest Service.

JIM: Think you'd like to be a flying Ranger, Jerry?

JERRY: I wouldn't want to spend all the time in the air out --

MARY: Isn't that a plane I hear?



JERRY: I don't hear --- Oh, yes! Let's see if we can locate it. Look out the window.

BESS: There he is, over the tops of those trees.

SOUND: (FADE MOTOR IN SLIGHTLY)

JIM: Yep. That's our man; he's coming down. I guess we'd better have a chat with the pilot before you take off, Jerry. Maybe he can give us a slant on how much time it'll take us to do this job.

JERRY: Yeah, we ought to go over it with 'im. I'll get 'im together.

JIM: (FADING) All right, I'll go get him and bring him in.

MUSIC: (TRANS CHORD)

SOUND: (DOOR OPENS)

JIM: (FADING IN) Come right in, Mr. LaCorte. This is our Ranger Station office here.

BOB: (FADING IN) Thanks

SOUND: (DOOR CLOSES)

JIM: Jerry, I'd like to have you meet ---

JERRY: (AMAZED) Bob LaCorte!

BOB: (DITTO) Jerry! --- You old son-of-a-sca-cook!

JERRY: What're you doin' here anyhow?

BOB: I'm flyin' for a living. Are you a Ranger?

JERRY: Sure. Don't you remember I was studying forestry.

BOB: (KIDDING) How did they ever happen to let you into the Forest Service?

JERRY: (LAUGHING) Well, I don't know, but they let me in, any way. I had to work for a living, see?

BOB: That's a good one. So do I.

JERRY: How come?

BOB: Oh, the family fortune's disappeared over night. Now I'm a licensed pilot, and glad of it, Jerry.

JIM: I take it you fellas know each other.

JERRY: (LAUGHING) I'll say we do. This is the Bob LaCorte I was tellin' you about, the one I used to room with at college. Jim's my boss, Bob.

BOB: I hope he doesn't have as tough a time as I had tryin' to keep you on the straight and narrow.

JIM: (CHUCKLING) I reckon we Rangers don't have time to do much else, Mr. LaCorte.

JERRY: Say, Bob. I want you to meet my fiancee.

BOB: Who?

JERRY: The girl I'm engaged to.

BOB: Sure, trot her out. Say, this is going to be a treat.

JERRY: (OFF MIKE) Mary! Come here a minute, will you? Bring Mrs. Robbins with you.

MARY: (DISTANCE) What is it, Jerry?

JERRY: (OFF MIKE) I want you to meet somebody.

MARY: (DISTANCE) But I have my apron on.

JERRY: (OFF MIKE) Aw, that doesn't make any difference. Come on.



MARY: (DISTANCE) All right, just a minute.

JERRY: (FADING IN) Tony'll be here in a minute.

BOB: Say, why couldn't you write a letter once in a while?

JERRY: Well -- I don't have a lot of time to write letters or anything. You know how it is.

BOB: (LAUGHING) Sure I do.

JERRY: Oh, here's Mary -- Mary, I want you to friend Bob LaCorte to meet you -- and this is Mrs. Robbins, Bob.

(MUTUAL GREETINGS)

JERRY: Bob's the fella I was tellin' you about that I used to fly with. We were roommates at college.

MARY: Jerry didn't tell us you were coming or we might have been a little more presentable. Mrs. Robbins and I had just started to do some canning.

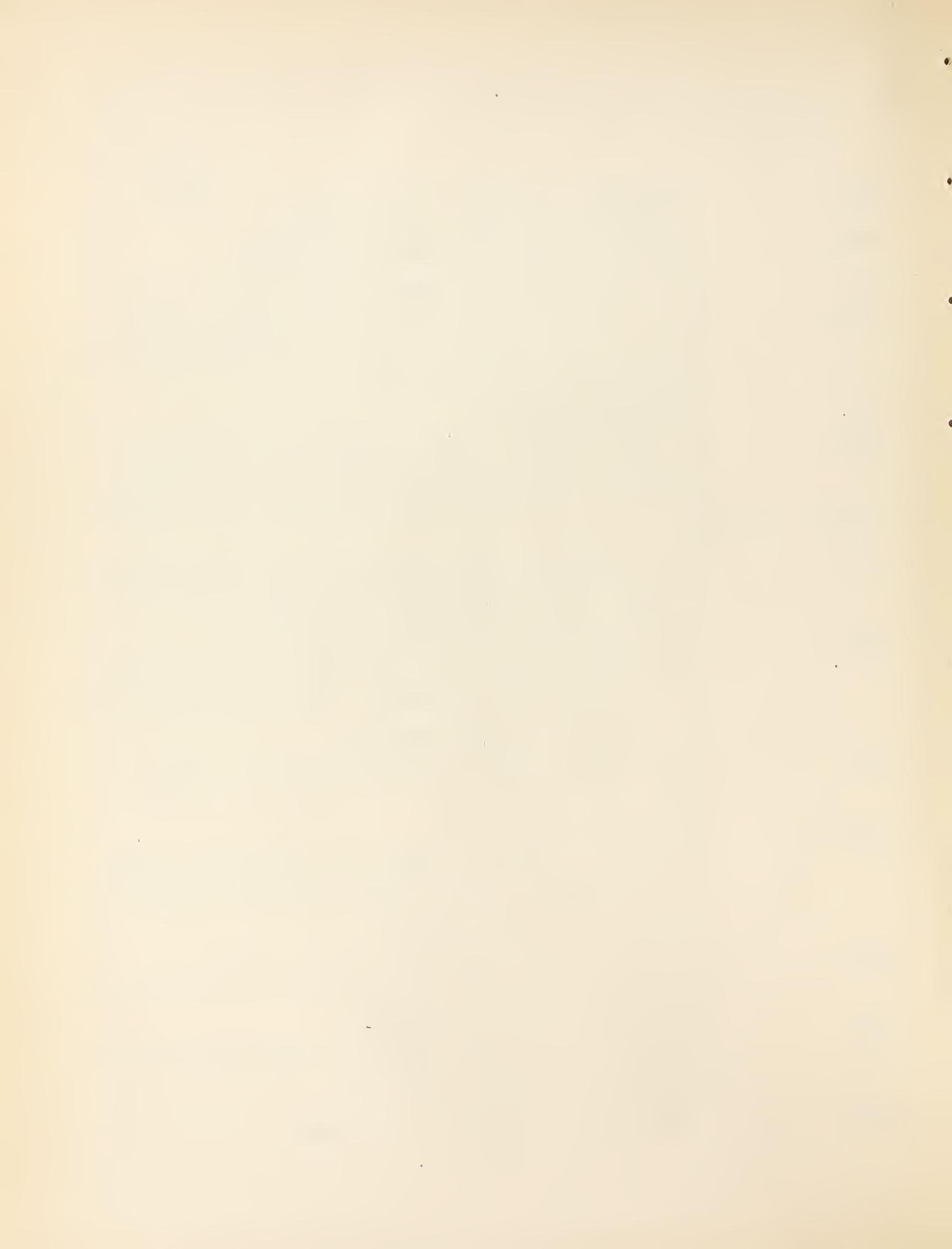
BOB: I guess Jerry didn't know much about it. It was a surprise for both of us.

JERRY: Yeah, Bob's flyin' the plane we're gonna use to take air-map pictures. It's the first time we've seen each other since we were in school.

RESS: If you'll be back here this evening, we'd like you to have supper with us, Mr. LaCorte.

BOB: I guess that's up to Mr. Robbins. If it fits in with his plans, I'd enjoy it very much.

JIM: I think we can arrange it, all right.



BOB: We'll expect you then.

BOB: Thanks, very much.

BOB: Not a bit. I think if you'll pardon us, Mary and I better get back to our canning.

BOB: Sure. I'm sorry I interrupted.

MARY: Don't worry about that. (FADING) We'll see you this evening.

BOB: Righto!

JERRY: Well, what do you think of her, Bob?

BOB: Mmm-mmm wish I'd joined the Forest Service instead of taking up aviation. You always were lucky, Jerry.

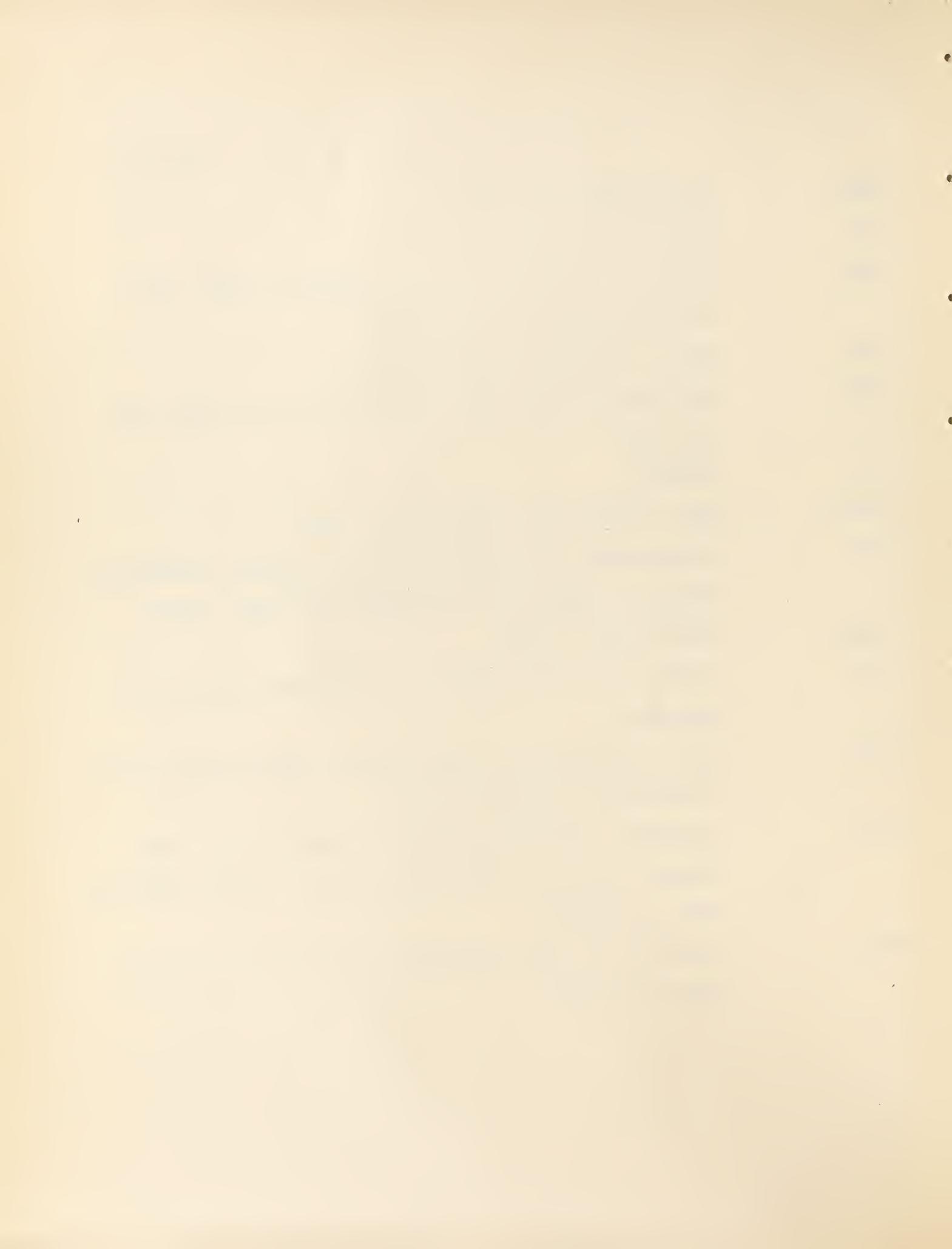
JERRY: That's what I think.

JIM: Is this your first detail on a National Forest, Mr. L'Corde?

BOB: No, I've done some of this work on other Forests. It's my first time up here, though.

JIM: I'm hopin' we'll have plenty of work for you. All depends on how the fire situation is, and how long the money holds out.

BOB: Airplanes could be a big help to the Forest Service, don't you think?



JIM: Oh, yes. They've been mighty helpful whenever we've used 'em. We've used 'em some for transportin' men and supplies in emergencies, and for scootin' bad fires, and so on.

JERRY: I suppose we'll have planes of our own some of these days. Gee! that'll sure be great. The Flying Rangers!

JIM: Yep, but it takes time to organize a unit like that. Do you want to have a look at our work plan here, Mr. LaCorte? Maybe you can give us some ideas as to the quickest way to get this job done.

BOB: Sure. Maybe I can help some.

JIM: Well, we thought we'd --

SOUND: (PHONE RINGS)

JERRY: (GADING) I'll get it.

SOUND: (RECEIVER CLICK)

JERRY: (OFF MIKE) Hello! --(QUICKLY) Yes, Pete! Where is it? -- Blind spot? -- No we haven't had any other reports -- hang on -- Jim, it's Pete McLaren on Windy Peak Lookout, says there's smoke rollin' up, but it's in that blind spot over the ridge from him and he can't locate it exactly.

JIM: Tell 'im to keep his eye on it and report back. We'll get one of our standby crews up there to find it as quick as we can.

JERRY: (TO PHONE) Listen, Pete, keep reporting to Jim. We'll get underway with a smokechaser crew.

(SOUND): (CLICK OF RECEIVER)

JIM: That may turn into a bad fire in that blind spot. We've got to get it located right now. LaCorte, can you fly Jerry over that area and report to me quickly?

BOB: You bet. We'll have 'er located in a few minutes.

JIM: If there's any wind behind that fire we'll need a lot of men on 'er. Jerry, you fly over Windy Peak and let me know how many men to send and the best way to get 'em in to the fire. Report in as quick as you can -- by phone if you can get to one quicker.

JERRY: Okay, Jim. (FADING) Come on, Bob.

SOUND: (DOOR OPENS AND SLAMS SHUT)

SOUND: (CRANKS PHONE • CLICK OF RECEIVER)

JIM: (TO PHONE) Hello! Give me the camp, please -- (CALLING) Bess! Can you come here a minute? I need some help -- (TO PHONE) Hello, Dave? -- This is Jim -- Listen, we've got a fire smoking up over behind Windy Peak. Can you stand by till I find out how bad it is? -- (FADING) Hold your men ready. -- Yes, every man you can spare --- she might be a pretty bad one --

MUSIC: (TRANS CHORD)

BESS: (FADING IN) How soon will we hear from Jerry, Jim?

sound : (pronk rings)

MARY. *May be that's Jerry.*

SOUND: (HANGS UP)



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it's sure a break for us we had that plane here. Will you hold the fort, Beau? I've got to get the air station (FADING) and get back to the fire district. We've got a fire in our garage.

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ANNOUNCER:

Unite Smokey Forest Rangers will be on the air again next Friday. Meanwhile, when those cigarette butts; break your match in two; keep fire out of the woods. -- This program is presented by the National Broadcasting Company, with the cooperation of the United States Forest Service.

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